





Susan Casady Regulatory Programs Leader State Regulation Tel. 602-250-2709 Fax 602-250-3003 e-mail Susan.Casady@aps.com Mail Station 9708 PO Box 53999 Phoenix, Arizona 85072-3999

December 1, 2010

Steve Olea, Director Utilities Division Arizona Corporation Commission 1200 W. Washington Phoenix, AZ 85007 Arizona Corporation Commission

DOCKETED

DEC 1 2010

DOCKETED BY

RE:

Self-Certification of Environmental Compatibility for the West Valley-South 230-kV Power Line and Substation Project, Decision No. 66646

Docket No. L-00000D-03-0122

Pursuant to Decision No. 66646, dated December 22, 2003, Condition No. 20, Arizona Public Service Company files this self-certification letter and documentation for the West Valley-South 230-kV Power Line and Substation Project.

If you have any questions regarding this information, please contact Jennie Vega at (602)250-2038.

Sincerely,

Susan Casady

SC/sl

Attachment

cc: Docket Control

Brian Bozzo

John Foreman, Arizona Power Plant & Line Siting Committee Jim Arwood, Arizona Department of Commerce Energy Office Herb Guenther, Arizona Department of Water Resources



# West Valley-South 230-kV Transmission Line Project

Docket No. L-00000D-03-0122
Arizona Corporation Commission
Decision No. 66646

Certificate of Environmental Compatibility Compliance

December 2010

### ARIZONA PUBLIC SERVICE WEST VALLEY – SOUTH 230-kV POWER LINE AND SUBSTATION PROJECT

## Summary of Certificate of Environmental Compatibility Compliance

#### **INTRODUCTION:**

Arizona Public Service Company (APS) is submitting the following self-certification documentation pursuant to Condition 20 of the West Valley – South 230-kV Power Line and Substation Project, Certificate of Compatibility Case No. 122, Docket No. L-00000D-03-0122, Decision No. 66646 (December 22, 2003).

The following Condition Table lists all the requirements and the status of compliance activities.

Construction from the Panda/Liberty/Rudd 230-kV Tap to TS-3 (Palm Valley Substation) is complete. Commercial operation of this portion of the project commenced in June 2007. No construction activities have occurred on the remainder of the line as of November 1, 2010.

#### **Arizona Public Service**

# Summary of Certificate of Environmental Compatibility Compliance West Valley – South 230-kV Power Line and Substation Project (Case 122)

Certificate Condition	Compliance	
1) The Applicant shall obtain all required approvals and permits necessary to construct the Project.	Compliance with this Condition for the first phase of Project construction was documented in the 2007 compliance filing.	
	A summary of permits and approvals is included with this filing.	
2) The Applicant shall comply with all existing applicable air and water pollution control standards and regulations, and with all existing applicable ordinances, master plans and regulations of the State of Arizona, the County of Maricopa, the United States and any other governmental entities having jurisdiction.	APS standard practice includes compliance with all existing standards, regulations, and ordinances where applicable.	
3) This authorization to construct the Project shall	Project was certificated on December 22, 2003.	
3) This authorization to construct the Project shall expire 10 years from the date the Certificate is approved by the Commission unless construction is completed to the point that the Project is capable of operating by that time; provided, however, that the authorization to construct the second circuit of the Project shall expire 15 years from date of this Certificate; and further provided, however, that prior to either such expiration the Applicant or its assignees may request that the Commission extend this time limitation.	Authorization to construct the first circuit of the Project expires on December 22, 2013. Authorization for the second circuit expires on December 22, 2018. An extension of the term of the Certificate is not required as of this filing.	
4) The Applicant shall make every reasonable effort to identify and correct, on a case-specific basis, all complaints of interference with radio or television signals from operation of the transmission line and related facilities addressed in this Certificate. In addition to any transmission repairs, relevant corrective actions may include adjusting or modifying receivers; adjusting, repairing, replacing or adding antennas, antenna signal amplifiers, filters, or lead-in cables; or other corrective actions. The Applicant shall maintain written records for a period of five years of all complaints of radio or television interference attributable to operation, together with the corrective action taken in response to each complaint. All complaints shall be recorded to include notations on the corrective action taken. Complaints not leading to a specific action or for which there was no resolution shall be noted and explained. The record shall be signed by the Applicant and also the complainant, if possible, to indicate concurrence with the corrective action or agreement with the justification for a lack of action.	APS standard practice includes tracking and responding to complaints of interference with radio and television signals as they are submitted to APS.	

5) The Project shall comply with applicable noise APS standard design practices include compliance standards of the federal Department of Housing and with applicable noise standards. Urban Development and the Environmental Protection Agency. 24 CFR §§ 51.102, 51.103 (1979); Information on Levels of Environmental Noise Requisite to Protect Public Health and Welfare with an Adequate Margin of Safety, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Document 5519-74-004, U.S. Government Printing Office, 1974. 6) The Applicant shall continue to consult with the Consultation information was provided in the 2004 State Historic Preservation Office ("SHPO") to reach a and 2007 compliance submittals. determination of any cultural or archaeological impacts as a result of construction activities. If the result is a Final design has not been completed for the remaining determination of negative impact, the Applicant shall phases of the Project as of November 1, 2010; however, continue to consult with the SHPO to resolve the activities and documents related to this Condition will be The Applicant will provide a provided, if applicable, in a future annual compliance negative impacts. treatment plan, to minimize impact, for SHPO review filing. and approval and shall continue to consult with SHPO to resolve any such impacts. The Applicant shall avoid and/or minimize impacts to properties considered eligible for inclusion in the State and National Register of Historic Places to the extent possible. 7) If human remains and/or funerary objects are Information regarding the first phase of Project development was previously provided in the 2007 encountered during the course of any ground disturbing activities relating to the development of the subject submittal. property, Applicant shall cease work on the affected area of the Project and notify the Director of the Arizona Final design has not been completed for the remaining State Museum in accordance with A.R.S. §41-865. phases of the Project as of November 1, 2010; however, activities and documents related to this Condition will be provided, if applicable, in a future annual compliance filing. Information regarding the first phase of Project 8) Applicant shall retain an archaeologist during development was previously provided in the 2007 construction activities in applicable areas, as determined by SHPO, to advise them in connection with any submittal. additional archaeological studies that may be required and any mitigation efforts for archaeological sites that Construction on this Project has not commenced for may be affected by the construction of the Project. the remaining phases as of November 1, 2010; however, activities and documents related to this Condition will be provided, if applicable, in a future annual compliance filing. 9) After construction, the Applicant, in conjunction APS allows Arizona Site Stewards to inspect sites with any applicable land-managing agency, shall allow within transmission corridors following construction. Arizona Site Stewards, a volunteer-staffed SHPO The completed first phase of construction is available for program, to periodically inspect the sites within the inspection. corridor for vandalism or other damage.

10) The Applicant shall follow the Arizona State Land Department's ("ASLD") instructions, if any, regarding the treatment of State Register of Historic Places eligible properties situated on ASLD land in consultation with SHPO.	Cultural resources survey information was provided in the 2004 compliance submittal in response to Condition 6.	
11) In consultation with SHPO and the land-managing agency, the Applicant will consider and assess potential direct and indirect impacts to eligible properties related to new access roads or any existing access roads that require blading.	This information was previously provided in the 2004 compliance submittal.  Construction on this Project has not commenced for the remaining phases as of November 1, 2010; however, activities and documents related to this Condition will be provided, if applicable, in a future annual compliance filing.	
12) Where practicable, the Applicant shall use existing roads for construction and access. The Applicant shall minimize vegetation disturbance, particularly in drainage channels and along stream banks, and shall revegetate or restore native areas of construction disturbance.	Information regarding the first phase of Project development was previously provided in the 2007 submittal.  Construction on this Project has not commenced for the remaining phases as of November 1, 2010; however, activities and documents related to this Condition will be provided, if applicable, in a future annual compliance filing.	
13) The Applicant shall use non-specular conductor and dulled surfaces for transmission line structures.	APS standard design practices include the use of non-specular and dulled surfaces for transmission structures.	
<ul> <li>14) Within 45 days of securing easement or right-of-way for the Project, the Applicant shall erect and maintain signs providing public notice that the property is the site of a future transmission line. Such signage shall be no smaller than a normal roadway sign. The Applicant shall place signs in prominent locations at reasonable intervals such that the public is notified along the full length of the transmission line until the transmission structures are constructed. There also must be signs at the location of the proposed substations. The signs shall advise: <ul> <li>That the site has been approved for the construction of Project facilities including a 230kV transmission line, as applicable to the individual site;</li> <li>The expected date of completion of the Project facilities; and</li> <li>A phone number for public information regarding the Project.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	Information regarding compliance with this Condition has been provided in the 2004, 2006, and 2007 submittals. Applicant continues to maintain these signs.	
15) In the event that the Project requires an extension of the term of this Certificate prior to completion of construction, Applicant shall use reasonable means to directly notify all landowners and residents within a one-	An extension of the term of the Certificate is not required as of this filing.	

half-mile radius of the Project facilities for which the extension is sought. Such landowners and residents shall be notified of the time and place of the proceeding in which the Commission shall consider such request for extension.

16) Before construction on the Project may commence, the Applicant must file a construction mitigation and restoration plan with the Commission's Docket Control Office with copies to affected areas of jurisdiction. The Applicant shall, within one year of completion of construction of the Project, rehabilitate to its original state any native area disturbed by construction of the Project, except for any road that may be necessary to access the transmission lines or substation sites for maintenance and repair.

The goals of the plan will be to:

- Avoid impacts where practical;
- Where impacts are unavoidable, minimize impacts; and
- Focus on site preparation to facilitate natural processes of revegetation.

Other key elements of the Plan, when not inconsistent with the respective land management agencies' or local owners' requirements, are to:

- Emphasize final site preparation to encourage natural revegetation;
- Avoid (i.e., preserve), where practical, mature native trees:
- Stipulate a maximum construction corridor width:
- Reserve topsoil and native plant materials from right-of-way before grading, and respread over the right-of-way after construction is complete;
- Imprint the restored right-of-way to provide indentations to catch seed and water;
- Implement best management practices to protect the soil;
- Apply restoration methods that have been shown to work in the desert environment; and
- Prevent, where applicable, the spread of noxious weeds or other undesirable species.

Compliance with this Condition pertaining to the first phase of the Project was previously provided in the 2007 submittal.

Construction on this Project has not commenced for the remaining phases as of November 1, 2010; however, activities and documents related to this Condition will be provided, if applicable, in a future annual compliance filing.

17) Applicant shall monitor all ground clearing/disturbing construction activities that may affect sensitive habitat. If a special status species is encountered, Applicant shall retain a biological monitor to ensure proper actions are taken with regard to such species. If Sonoran desert tortoises are encountered during construction, the Applicant shall follow the Arizona Game and Fish Department's ("AGFD") Guidelines for Handling Sonoran Desert Tortoises.

Information regarding the first phase of Project development was previously provided in the 2007 submittal.

Construction on this Project has not commenced for the remaining phases as of November 1, 2010; however, activities and documents related to this Condition will be provided, if applicable, in a future annual compliance filing.

Information regarding the first phase of Project development was previously provided in the 2007 submittal.  Construction on this Project has not commenced for the remaining phases as of November 1, 2010; however, activities and documents related to this Condition will be provided, if applicable, in a future annual compliance filing.	
APS continues to work with the City of Goodyear to finalize landscaping plans for the Palm Valley Substation. Additional information about this and future phases of the Project regarding this Condition will be provided when applicable.	
Compliance with this Condition is evidenced by the submission of this filing.	
APS coordinates its transmission planning with other transmission providers and stakeholders in the Desert Southwest, and the Western Interconnection as a whole, through its active participation in the Southwest Area Transmission (SWAT) planning group, membership in WestConnect, membership in the Western Electricity Coordinating Council (WECC) and participation in the WECC Transmission Expansion Planning Policy Committee (TEPPC) and its Technical Advisory Subcommittee (TAS). APS participates in the Central Arizona Transmission Study through the SWAT. The Southwest Transmission Enhancement Plan is no longer applicable and has been replaced by the SWAT.	

22) The following condition is to ensure transmission system safety and reliability when a transmission structure is placed within one hundred feet of a natural gas or hazardous liquid pipeline right-of-way, excluding distribution lines as defined by the Code of Federal Regulations, 49 C.F.R. Sect. 192.3 (2001). Under such circumstances, the Applicant shall: a) Provide the appropriate grounding and cathodic protection studies to show that the transmission line results in no material adverse impacts to such natural gas or hazardous liquid pipeline, whose right-of-way is a hundred feet or less from the transmission structure, when both are in operation. A report of the studies shall be provided to the Commission by the Applicant as part of its compliance with the Certificate. If material adverse impacts are noted in the studies, Applicant shall take appropriate steps to ensure such material adverse impacts are eliminated. Applicant shall provide to the Commission written documentation of the actions that were taken and provide documentation showing that no material adverse impacts are occurring;

Information regarding the first phase of Project development was previously provided in the 2007 submittal.

Construction on this Project has not commenced for the remaining phases as of November 1, 2010; however, activities and documents related to this Condition will be provided, if applicable, in a future annual compliance filing.

b) Adopt a written mitigation plan outlining any and all steps taken to protect all electric facilities associated with the transmission line as a result of this Project from any potential hazards that could occur whenever a transmission line structure is placed 100 feet or less from any such pipeline right-of-way. The plan shall indicate what corrective action will be taken to mitigate any potential hazard that could occur. A potential hazard includes, but not limited to, a rupture or explosion resulting from the pipeline. The written mitigation plan shall be provided to the Commission by the Applicant as part of its compliance with this Certificate and shall be subject to approval from Commission Staff. Applicant shall implement the written mitigation plan during a hazard as part of its compliance with this Certificate.

Information regarding the first phase of Project development was previously provided in the 2007 submittal.

Construction on this Project has not commenced for the remaining phases as of November 1, 2010; however, activities and documents related to this Condition will be provided, if applicable, in a future annual compliance filing.

23) The Applicant shall provide copies of this Certificate to SHPO, AGFD, appropriate city and county planning agencies, and ASLD.

Compliance with this Condition was previously provided in the 2004 submittal.

24) Applicant, within 60 days of the issuance of the Certificate by the Commission, shall begin work with developers along the route to encourage them to include the identity and location of the certificated route in the developers' homeowners disclosure statement.

This information was previously provided in the 2006 compliance submittal. APS provides information for developers regarding transmission facilities on its siting website at www.aps.com/siting along with links to current and completed High Voltage transmission siting projects.

# CASE 122 WEST VALLEY – SOUTH 230-kV POWER LINE AND SUBSTATION PROJECT

#### **CONDITION 1**

The Applicant shall obtain all required approvals and permits necessary to construct the Project.

#### **COMPLIANCE**

As of November 1, 2010, APS has applied for the following permits and approvals associated with the West Valley-South 230-kV Project. The following table lists the status of these permits or approvals

ISSUING/APPROVING AGENCY	ТҮРЕ	APPLICATION/APPROVAL STATUS
Arizona State Land Department	Right-of-Way	Issued 3/15/07 R/W 14-110192